



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/666,249	09/22/2003	Atsuko Yagi	243023US2	9513

22850 7590 05/02/2006

OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.
1940 DUKE STREET
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314

EXAMINER

LEROUX, ETIENNE PIERRE

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2161

DATE MAILED: 05/02/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/666,249

Applicant(s)

YAGI, ATSUKO

Examiner

Etienne P. LeRoux

Art Unit

2161

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 September 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-56 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-56 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 22 September 2003 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 9/22/2003.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

Claim Status

Claims 1-56 are pending. Claims 1-56 are rejected as detailed below.

Drawings

The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the following must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

- 1) service providing apparatus
- 2) responding part
- 3) processing state obtaining part

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet"

Art Unit: 2161

pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Pub No US 2002/0136559 issued to Simpson et al (hereafter Pub '559).

Claim 1:

Pub '559 discloses a responding part which makes a response to said terminal [personal computer 704, Fig 1, paragraph 47] asynchronously with respect to a completion of the processing [target image No 1, Fig 3, paragraph 52] which is caused to be executed by said service providing apparatus [first web site 708, Fig 1]

a processing state obtaining part which obtains a state of the processing concerning the service providing request, from said service providing part [Fig 18, step 2218 display status page, paragraph 110]

Art Unit: 2161

a Web page generating part [document creation service, paragraph 60] which, in response to a Web page display request made by said terminal, generates a Web page [first web page 1112, Fig 5, paragraph 59] to display the state of processing which is obtained via said processing state obtaining part, and transmits the thus-produced Web page to said terminal [print status page 2602, Fig 22, paragraphs 109-113]

Claim 2:

Pub '559 discloses a processing information managing part which manages identification information of the processing concerning the service providing request, wherein: said responding part registers the identification information of the processing in said processing information managing part, and said processing state obtaining part obtains the state of the processing for which the identification information is registered in said processing information managing part [target image No 1, Fig 3]

Claim 3:

Pub '559 discloses said processing information managing part further manages information concerning a position of the service providing apparatus which is caused to execute the processing concerning the service providing request, and information concerning a method for obtaining the state of the processing [printer, second web site 710, Fig 1]

Claim 4:

Pub '559 discloses said processing state obtaining part obtains the processing state from the service providing apparatus based on the information managed by said processing

Art Unit: 2161

information managing part in response to a Web page display request made from said terminal [paragraph 80].

Claim 5:

Pub '559 discloses said responding part causes the service providing apparatus to execute the processing by transmitting a request for execution of processing concerning the service providing request, to the service providing apparatus [paragraph 84]

Claim 6:

Pub '559 discloses said responding part obtains information concerning a method for obtaining the processing state of the processing from the service providing apparatus as a response to the request for execution of the processing concerning the service providing request; and said processing state obtaining part obtains the processing state based on the information concerning the method for obtaining the processing state obtained via the responding part [paragraph 111]

Claim 7:

Pub '559 discloses in case a plurality of methods for obtaining the processing state obtained by the responding part are managed in the processing information managing part, said processing state obtaining part obtains the plurality of processing states based on the respective ones of the plurality of methods for obtaining the processing state [paragraph 104]

Claim 8:

Art Unit: 2161

Pub '559 discloses said processing state obtaining part transmits a processing state sending request to a processing state providing apparatus which provides the processing state of processing which the service providing apparatus is caused to execute, and receives the processing state which is sent by the processing state providing apparatus in response to the processing state sending request [polling may be used, paragraph 111] .

Claim 9:

Pub '559 discloses a processing state receiving part receiving the processing state from the service providing apparatus, wherein said Web page generating part generates a Web page displaying the processing state received via the processing state receiving part [paragraph 5]

Claim 10:

Pub '559 discloses said processing state obtaining part transmits a processing state sending request to the service providing apparatus, and receives the processing state sent from the service providing apparatus in response to the sending request [paragraph 111].

Claim 11:

Pub '559 discloses the information concerning the method for obtaining the processing state comprises information concerning a position of a processing state providing apparatus which provides the processing state; and said processing state obtaining part transmits a processing state sending request to the processing state providing apparatus specified by the position information, and receives the processing state sent by said processing state providing apparatus in response to the sending request [printer, second web site 710, Fig 1].

Art Unit: 2161

Claim 12:

Pub '559 discloses said responding part causes the service providing apparatus to execute a plurality of processing units based on a single service providing request made by the terminal, provides a response to said terminal without waiting for respective completions of the plurality of processing units; said processing state obtaining part obtains the respective processing states of the plurality of processing units; and said Web page generating part generates a Web page displaying the states of the plurality of processing units obtained via said processing state obtaining part [paragraph 40]

Claim 13:

Pub '559 discloses said processing information managing part manages information concerning the position of the service providing apparatus which is caused to execute each of the plurality of processing units, the information concerning the method for obtaining the processing state for each of the plurality of processing units, and also, request identification information assigning a common value for the plurality of processing units to be executed based on the common service providing request made by the terminal [Fig 1]

Claim 14:

Pub '559 discloses said processing state obtaining part identifies processing based on the common service providing request made by the terminal based on the above-mentioned request identification information, and, thus, obtains the respective processing states of the plurality of processing units based on the common service providing request based on the information managed by said processing information managing part [Fig 1]

Art Unit: 2161

Claim 15:

Pub '559 discloses said responding part causes a plurality of respective service providing apparatuses to execute the respective ones of the plurality of processing units [Fig 1].

Claim 16:

Pub '559 discloses wherein said Web page generating part generates the Web page displaying in an integration manner the respective processing states of the processing units based on the common service providing request obtained via the processing obtaining part [Figs 1-3].

Claim 17:

Pub '559 discloses said Web page generating part generates a Web page in which the processing state is not displayed according to a request of the terminal [Fig 1]

Claim 18:

Pub '559 discloses a detailed information page generating part which generates a Web page displaying detailed information of the processing state in response to a request made by the terminal [Fig 1].

Claim 19:

Pub '559 discloses said Web page generating part obtains predetermined information from a plurality of service providing apparatuses based on a request made by the terminal, and generates the Web page displaying the obtained information in respective ones of a plurality of divisional areas of the page [Fig 22]

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 20 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pub '559 in view of Pub No 2003/0033432 issued to Simpson et al (hereafter Pub '432).

Claim 20:

Pub '559 discloses the elements of claims 1 and 19 as noted above but does not disclose a page information managing part which manages a structure defining display contents with extensible Markup Language for respective ones of the plurality of divisional areas of the Web page for each user, wherein said Web page generating part generates the Web page based on the structure. Pub '432 discloses HTML/XML based web pages [paragraph 385]. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Pub '559 to include a page information managing part which manages a structure defining display contents with extensible Markup Language for respective ones of the plurality of divisional areas of the Web page for each user, wherein said Web page generating part generates the Web page based on the structure based on the disclosure of Pub '432 for the purpose of participating in XML based web pages.

Claim 21:

Art Unit: 2161

The combination of Pub '559 and Pub '432 discloses the elements in claims 1, 19 and 20 and further discloses said Web page generating part generates the Web page in a manner such that the processing state of the processing concerning the service providing request is displayed in one of the plurality of divisional areas [Pub '559, Fig 22]

Regarding the rejection of claims 22-56, examiner maintains that claims 22-56 can be rejected on the same basis as claims 1-21.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Etienne P. LeRoux whose telephone number is (571) 272-4022. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Friday between 8:00 am and 4:30 pm.

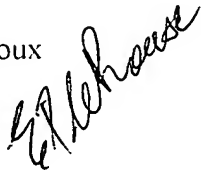
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeffrey Gaffin can be reached on (571) 272-4146. fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571)-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2161

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Etienne LeRoux

4/26/2006

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Etienne LeRoux', is written over the printed name and date.